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15. (Amended) A computer readable program, stored in a storage medium, for controlling a data processing apparatus executing a job, said computer readable program comprising the steps of:

discriminating a result of a job executed by said data processing apparatus;
determining if an external device should be informed of the result based on an input; and
informing an external device connected to said data processing apparatus of the determined result of the job if said determining step determines that the external device is to be informed of the result of the job.

REMARKS

Applicants request favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-15 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 6, 13, and 15 are the independent claims.

Claims 1-4 and 6-15 have been amended. Independent Claims 1, 6, 13, and 15 have been amended as to matters of form and to further distinguish the present invention from the cited art. Claims 2-4, 7-12, and 14 have been amended to improve their form. Applicant submits that the amendments to Claims 2-4, 7-12, and 14 merely improve their form and do not narrow the scope of the claims. No new matter has been added.

The specification has been amended to improve its form. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of U.S. Patent No. 6,081,342 (Nakai, et al.) and U.S. Patent No. 5,655,152 (Ohnishi, et al.). Claims 13-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of U.S. Patent No. 6,069,624 (Dash, et al.) and Ohnishi, et al. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

In one aspect of the present invention, independent Claim 1 recites features of an apparatus for processing data transfer jobs. The apparatus comprises a first memory, a second memory, a controller, and an interface circuit. The first memory inputs and stores data for each of a plurality of jobs, transfers the data for each of the plurality of jobs to an output device, and inputs a selection of whether or not history information for at least one of the plurality of jobs is to be stored. The second memory receives information from the controller, which controller, when a transfer of data from the first memory has ended for a given job, stores history information for the given job in the second memory in accordance with the input selection of whether or not history information for at least one of the plurality of jobs is to be stored. The interface circuit receives a status inquiry and forwards the status inquiry to the controller wherein, upon receipt of the status inquiry, the controller retrieves the history information from the second memory stored in accordance with the input selection and, if the history information was stored, sends the retrieved history information to the interface circuit.

In another aspect of the present invention, independent Claim 6 recites features of a data processing apparatus comprising a connection means, an input means, a processing means, and an informing means. The connection means connects to an external device. The input means inputs an instruction to execute a job and whether the external device is to be informed of a result of a processing of the job. The processing means processes the job based on the instruction input

by the input means. The informing means informs the external device of the result of the job processing executed by said processing means through said connection means when the external device is to be informed of the result of the job processing.

In still another aspect of the present invention, independent Claim 13 recites features of a control method of a data processing apparatus executing a job. The control method comprises the steps of discriminating a result of a job executed by the data processing apparatus, determining if an external device should be informed of the result based on an input; and informing an external device connected to the data processing apparatus of the discriminated result to the job if the determining step determines that the external device is to be informed of the result of the job.

Independent Claim 15 corresponds generally to independent Claim 13 and recites similar features in computer readable storage medium form.

By these arrangements, it is possible to determine the state of processing of a data transfer job or jobs as well as to manage the history of all or some of the jobs. Thus, the processing of multiple data transfer jobs is made more efficient.

The rejection of independent Claims 1 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103 should be withdrawn because the cited art fails to disclose or suggest at least the features of a first memory that . . . (iii) inputs a selection of whether or not history information for at least one of the plurality of jobs is to be stored (Claim 1) or an input means for inputting an instruction to execute a job and whether the external device is to be informed of a result of a processing of the job (Claim 6).

Nakai, et al. relates to an image forming system including a plurality of image forming apparatuses interconnected through a transmitting apparatus. The Nakai, et al. system allows an image read at any of the interconnected image forming apparatuses (an image-reading

copying machine) to be processed by any of the other interconnected image forming apparatuses (a data-processing copying machine). Thus, in the case where an image-reading copying machine does not have a desired processing feature, the image can be input into the system at that machine and processed by another data processing copying machine connected to the system that has the desired feature. However, Nakai, et al. fails to teach or suggest inputting a selection of whether or not history information for at least one of the plurality of jobs is to be stored (Claim 1) or an instruction to execute a job and whether the external device is to be informed of a result of a processing of the job (Claim 6). This is not surprising since Nakai, et al. is directed to a system that reduces the need to replace older or outdated copying machines with newer more advances copying machines. Thus, Nakai, et al. does not render at least the aforesaid feature independent Claims 1 or 6 obvious.

Applicants respectfully submit that Ohnishi, et al., cited merely for its teaching of receiving history information from a second memory and sending the history information to a client, does not add anything that remedies the above-noted deficiencies in the teaching of Nakai, et al. Indeed, Onishi, et al. lacks a teaching or suggestion of inputting a selection of whether or not history information for at least one of a plurality of jobs is to be stored.

The rejection of independent Claims 13 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §103 should be withdrawn because the cited art fails to teach or suggest at least the features of: determining if an external device should be informed of the result based on an input; and informing an external device connected to said data processing apparatus of the discriminated result to the job if said determining step determines that the external device is to be informed of the result of the job.

Dash, et al. is directed to a message management system for the user interface of a multifunctional printing system and teaches a system for controlling the manner in which status

messages are displayed by a user interface. In the Dash, et al. system, the user interface includes a display screen (e.g., 300 in Figure 7) that is configured to display line messages intended to convey information regarding the status of job various processing jobs. (Col. 5, line 53 - Col. 6, line 14). However, Dash, et al. lacks any teaching or suggestion of determining, based on an input, if an external device should be informed of the result and informing an external device connected to said data processing apparatus of the discriminated result to the job if said determining step determines that the external device is to be informed of the result of the job. Thus, Dash, et al. does not render at least the aforesaid feature independent Claims 13 or 15 obvious.

Applicants respectfully submit that Ohnishi, et al., cited merely for its teaching of receiving history information from a second memory and sending the history information to a client, fails to add anything to that remedies the above-noted deficiencies in the teaching of Dash, et al.

Applicants submit that independent Claims 1, 6, 13 and 15 patentably define the present invention over the cited art. Further, the dependent claims should also be allowable for the same reasons as the base claims and further due to the additional features that they recite.

Applicants believe that the present Amendment is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Official Action, and submit that the application is in allowable form. Favorable consideration of the claims and passage to issue of the present application at the Examiner's earliest convenience earnestly are solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Michael Kondoudis", is written over a horizontal line.

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APPENDIX

VERSION SHOWING CHANGES MADE TO CLAIMS

1. (Amended) An apparatus for processing data transfer jobs, comprising:

a first memory that (i) inputs and stores data for each of a plurality of jobs, [and] (ii) transfers the data for each of the plurality of jobs to an output device, and (iii) inputs a selection of whether or not history information for at least one of the plurality of jobs is to be stored;

a second memory;[:]

a controller that, when a transfer of data from the first memory has ended for a given job, stores history information for the given job in said [the] second memory in accordance with the input selection of whether or not history information for at least one of the plurality of jobs is to be stored; and

an interface circuit that receives a status inquiry and forwards the status inquiry to said [the] controller,

wherein upon receipt of the status inquiry, said [the] controller retrieves the history information from said [the] second memory stored in accordance with the input selection[,] and, if the history information was stored, sends the retrieved history information to said [the] interface circuit.

2. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said first and second memories are located [the second memory and the first memory are implemented] in the same physical device.

3. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the history information indicates whether the transfer of data for a given job has [either] terminated normally, terminated abnormally, or terminated as a result of a stop instruction received from a user.

4. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the status inquiry includes information that specifies at least one category of data transfer job, and said [the] controller sends to said interface circuit history information corresponding only to the specified at least one category of data job [to the interface circuit].

5. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the output device comprises a printer.

6. (Amended) A data processing apparatus comprising:
connection means for connecting to an external device;
input means for inputting an instruction to execute a job and whether the external device is to be informed of a result of a processing of the job;
processing means for processing the job based on the instruction input by said input means; and
informing means for informing [a result of the job processing executed by said processing means to] the external device of the result of the job processing executed by said processing means through said connection means when the external device is to be informed of the result of the job processing.

7. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising storage means for storing the result of the job processing in correspondence with a job type, [of the job;]
wherein said informing means informs said storage means of the result of the job processing[stored in said storage means].

8. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said storage means stores the result of the job processing together with time information.

9. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said storage means selectively stores the result of the job processing according to the job type [of the job].

10. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said informing means informs the result of the job processing in response to an instruction provided from the external device connected to said connection means.

11. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said connection means is connected to a network for connecting a plurality of terminals[,] and said informing means informs [the result of the job to] one of the plurality of terminals connected to the network of the result of the job processing.

12. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said informing means informs the one of the plurality terminals of the result of the job in correspondence with a user inquiry made at [the] one of the plurality of terminals.

13. (Amended) A control method of a data processing apparatus executing a job, comprising the steps of:

discriminating a result of a [the] job executed by said data processing apparatus;

[and]

determining if an external device should be informed of the result based on an input; and

informing [the discriminated result of the job to] an external device connected to said data processing apparatus of the discriminated result to the job if said determining step determines that the external device is to be informed of the result of the job.

14. (Amended) A control method according to claim 13, further comprising a step of storing the result of the job in correspondence with a job type [of the job];

wherein the informing step informs the external device of the result of the job stored in said [the] storing step.

15. (Amended) A computer readable program, stored in a storage medium, for controlling a data processing apparatus executing a job, said computer readable program comprising the steps of:

discriminating a result of a [the] job executed by said data processing apparatus;

[and]

determining if an external device should be informed of the result based on an input; and

informing [the discriminated result of the job to] an external device connected to said data processing apparatus of the determined result of the job if said determining step determines that the external device is to be informed of the result of the job.

APPENDIX

VERSION SHOWING CHANGES MADE TO SPECIFICATION

The paragraph starting at page 2, line 3 through line 7, has been amended as follows:

--By virtue of the above-described [above] reserve copying function, even if the copying machine is occupied with many copying jobs, a subsequent copying job can be accepted as long as the input of an image from the scanner into the memory is completed, thereby increasing the throughput of the copying function.--

The paragraph starting at page 2, line 8 through line 14, has been amended as follows:

--When multiple copy jobs are involved, a PC may wish to check the execution state of each job. Conventionally, however, when a PDL print job issued by a PC is transferred from a print server on a network to a copying machine, the completion of the job is disadvantageously reported to the PC. It is thus difficult to determine whether a [the] job issued by the PC has actually been completed.--

The paragraph starting at page 2, line 15 through line 18, has been amended as follows:

-- Also, a copy [The] job may be canceled while being executed, or may be abnormally terminated for any number of reasons [some reason]. In this case, it is also difficult to ascertain in which manner the job issued by the PC has been terminated.

The paragraph starting at page 5, line 22 through line 23, has been amended as follows:

--Fig. 9 is a flowchart [flow chart] illustrating a storage method for a job history.--

The paragraph starting at page 6, line 1 through line 3, has been amended as follows:

--Fig. 11 is a flowchart [flow chart] illustrating the processing executed in response to a job history inquiry from a terminal on a local area network (LAN).--